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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 20 MARCH 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED RESPECTIVELY TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you an annex to the letter dated 4 March 1991, addressed to you by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, to the effect that aircraft of the United States Air Force have continued, since the cessation of hostilities on 28 February, to carry out constant flight operations in Iraqi air space and over the cities in particular, in the form of a continual air umbrella during both day and night. The details are as follows:

Date	Details
5 March	17 sorties concentrated over the city of Baghdad and the area to the west of it.
6 March	5 sorties concentrated in the region between Nasiriyah and Kut.
8 March	3 sorties concentrated in the region between Al-Ramadi and Tikrit.
9 March	2 sorties concentrated in the region between eastern Baghdad and Nasiriyah.
10 March	9 sorties concentrated in the region of Al-Haditha, northern Al-Ramadi, southern Baghdad and northern Kut.
11 March	7 sorties concentrated in the southern region between Nasiriyah and southern Baghdad, with one formation that went as far as the region of Mandali and another, as far as Al-Ramadi.
12 March	9 sorties concentrated over the city of Baghdad and between the cities of Kut and Nasiriyah.
13 March	1 sortie concentrated in the area between southern Kut and Al-Diwaniyah.

Date	Details
14 March	1 sortie in the region of western Amara, then in the direction of the city of Kut and the region of Al-Samawah.
16 March	100 formations, including a group of 192 aircraft over the city of Baghdad, the region of Mandali, eastern Tikrit, the cities of Kut and Karbala and the region of kilometre 160.
17 March	162 sorties divided among 107 formations concentrated in the regions of Al-Nukhayb, Kut, kilometre 160, Nasiriyah, Al-Samawah, Al-Diwaniyah, Tikrit, Mandali, Al-Najaf and Kirkuk, breaking the sound barrier over the city of Kirkuk.
18 March	67 formations, including a group of 148 aircraft concentrated in the region of western Al-Razazah and between Al-Hayy, Kut, northwestern Khanaqin, kilometre 160, Al-Rutbah, Al-Qadisiyah, Al-Najaf, Tharthar, Karbala, Kirkuk and Al-Ramadi.
19 March	208 sorties divided among 108 formations concentrated in the region of Al-Ramadi, eastern Al-Nukhayb, Samarra, Kut, Al-Hashimiyah, Baghdad (repeated sorties), Mandali, Al-Diwaniyah, Nasiriyah and Kirkuk.
20 March	288 sorties divided among 143 formations concentrated in the region of Al-Miqdadiyah, Suwayrah, Kut, Al-Razazah, Samarra, Tikrit, Al-Hashimiyah, Al-Habbaniyah and Baghdad.

It should be pointed out that the aircraft which took part in these umbrella operations were F-14s, F-15s and F-16s and that they flew at speeds ranging from 600 to 1,000 kilometres per hour and at altitudes ranging from 100 metres to 21 kilometres.

This continual air umbrella over the cities obviously causes a great disturbance and considerable anxiety to their civilian inhabitants, especially children, women, the elderly and the sick, causing them to experience unjustified terror. This leads one to wonder about the aim of the United States armed forces in carrying out these continuous air sorties over Iraq after having inflicted upon the Iraqi people devastation and widespread suffering that have shaken the foundations of their existence and deprived them of many of the essentials of daily life. The truth of the matter is that this is a primitive form of behaviour in which advanced technology is used for vindictive purposes and for terrorizing the Iraqi people. Human consciousness must remain alert with respect to this behaviour directed against the people of Iraq. And there can be no excuse for passing over it in silence.

We trust that the Security Council and the Secretary-General will take a stand in keeping with the dictates of the human conscience to stop this continual injury to the people of Iraq.

I request you to have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative